

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for processing description information of multimedia data, comprising:

5 a server 100 adding description information to multimedia; and
a terminal 200 transmitting/receiving multimedia data to/from the server 100, storing a user's usage history about the multimedia data, grasping a preference of a user with the stored usage history and providing the preference of the user to the server 100.

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2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the server 100 further includes a description information descriptor 110 adding description information to the multimedia data.

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3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the description information descriptor 110 classifies the description information added to the multimedia data into common characteristic information 300 commonly applicable to the multimedia data and inherent characteristic information 400 inherently applicable to the multimedia data, and the common characteristic information 300 and the inherent
20 characteristic information 400 including subordinate characteristic information, respectively.

4. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the description information descriptor 110 classifies the description information into common characteristic
25 information 300 commonly applicable to the multimedia data and inherent

characteristic information 400 inherently applicable to the multimedia data, a
program ID 500 for distinguishing multimedia data having the same common
characteristic information 300 from multimedia data having different common
characteristic information and an inherent ID (Identification) 600 for identifying
5 each of the multimedia data, and adds them to the multimedia data.

10 5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the common characteristic
information includes not less than one of genre information, director information,
leading actor and actress information and title information.

15 6. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the inherent characteristic
information includes not less than one item of a plot, an episode sequence in a
series, a running time of multimedia data.

20 7. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the description information
descriptor 110 classifies description information into characteristic information, a
program ID (Identification) 500 for distinguishing multimedia data having the same
common characteristic information from multimedia data having different common
characteristic information, and an inherent ID 600 for classifying each of the
multimedia data.

25 8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the characteristic information
includes type information 350 for classifying itself into common characteristic
information 300 or inherent characteristic information 400.

9. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the description information descriptor 110 classifies the description information into characteristic information, a program ID 500 for distinguishing multimedia data having the same common characteristic information 300 from multimedia data having different common characteristic information, an inherent ID for identifying each of the multimedia data and episode sequence information, and adds them to the multimedia data.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the characteristic information includes application group information 900 indicating applicable to other multimedia data having the same program ID.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the application group information 900 includes first episode information 910 and last episode information 920 in order to describe a range in which each of the characteristic information can be commonly applied to the multimedia data having the same program ID.

12. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the description information descriptor 110 adds an inherent ID 600 to the multimedia data in order to identify each of the characteristic information and each of the multimedia data.

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13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein each of the characteristic information further includes application group information 900 indicating applicable to other multimedia data having the same program ID.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the application group

information 900 includes an application ID 930 in order to identify each characteristic information commonly applied to the multimedia data.

15. The apparatus of claim 1, comprising:

- 5 a display unit 220 displaying multimedia transmitted from the server 100;
a data analyzing unit 230 classifying the transmitted multimedia data and comparing program IDs of the multimedia data;
a memory unit 240 storing a user's usage history about the multimedia data; and
10 an I/O (Input / Output) interface unit 210 transmitting a user's preference to the server 100.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the data analyzing unit classifies the multimedia data transmitted from the server 100 into a common list
15 and an inherent list.

17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the common list is stored in the memory unit 240.

20 18. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the common list includes link information linking the common list itself to the inherent list.

19. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the common list is stored in an additional memory unit.

20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the common list includes link information linking the common list stored in the additional memory unit to the inherent list.

5 21. A method for processing description information of multimedia data, comprising:

classifying description information into common characteristic information
300 commonly applicable to multimedia data and inherent characteristic
information 400 inherently applicable to the multimedia data when the multimedia
10 data is transmitted from a server to a terminal;

constructing a hierarchical information description format by adding each
characteristic information of the multimedia data to a subordinate of the common
characteristic information 300 and the inherent characteristic information 400,
respectively; and

15 adding the hierarchical information description format to the multimedia data.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the hierarchical information description format adding process further includes the step of:

20 adding a program ID 500 for distinguishing multimedia data having the same common characteristic information from multimedia data having different common characteristic information to the multimedia data.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the program ID adding step
25 further includes the sub-step of:

adding an inherent ID 600 for identifying each of the multimedia to the multimedia data.

24. A method for processing description information of multimedia data, comprising:

comparing a program ID 500 of displayed multimedia data with a program ID stored in a memory unit when the multimedia data is displayed on a terminal;

storing an inherent list in the memory unit when the program ID 500 is the same as the program ID stored in the memory unit; and

storing a common list and the inherent list in the memory unit when the program ID 500 is not the same as the program ID stored in the memory unit.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein the comparing process further includes the step of:

adding link information for linking to the common list to the inherent list and comparing link information of the common list with the link information of the inherent list.

26. A method for processing description information of multimedia data, comprising:

comparing a program ID 500 of displayed multimedia data with a program ID stored in an additional memory unit when the multimedia data is displayed on a terminal;

storing an inherent list in a memory unit when the program ID 500 is the same as the stored program ID; and

storing the inherent list in the memory unit and the common list in the additional memory unit when the program ID 500 is not the same as the stored program ID.

5 27. The method of claim 26, wherein the comparing process further includes the step of:

 adding link information of the additional memory unit to the inherent list and comparing the common list with the inherent list.

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